



Special Education Advisory Committee

February 5, 2020, LCPS Administration Building

Presentation: Inclusive Practices for Post-Secondary Success

Presented By: Karen Berlin, MEd, BCBA

[https://vimeo.com/389710165?](https://vimeo.com/389710165?fbclid=IwAR1vWRtbQ3Vs3FDldifpoEaX7esDMuPcXkKhYPiK3UC9IV4rjMuDDYrqUhU)

[fbclid=IwAR1vWRtbQ3Vs3FDldifpoEaX7esDMuPcXkKhYPiK3UC9IV4rjMuDDYrqUhU](https://vimeo.com/389710165?fbclid=IwAR1vWRtbQ3Vs3FDldifpoEaX7esDMuPcXkKhYPiK3UC9IV4rjMuDDYrqUhU)

Next SEAC Business Meeting March 4, 2020 at 6 p.m.; Joint Presentation with MSAAC; LCPS Administration Building

Presentation begins at 7:15 p.m.: Discipline P2: Using Positive Behavioral Intervention (PBIS) to Address Discipline Disparities

Presented By: Dr. Kristy Park, BCBA-D

February 5, Business Meeting:

Public Comment(s): There was two public comments:

Veena Sajjan shared concerns with **training for substitute teachers** that work with **special education students in the classroom and programs**. Subs who haven't volunteered in a special education classroom don't understand the curriculum. There are not clear instructions for subs. Subs do not understand content and lack knowledge in instruction. Requests 1-5 days of paid training/internship to mitigate frustration and have better understanding in special needs classrooms.

Cheryl Chirello shared concerns with **credit accommodations for graduation**. Reminded parents to keep all work with a grade on it. Thanking LCPS for adopting new SOLs verification process (standards). Helps students go to technical college and will improve Loudoun's student graduation rates with standard diplomas. Save all work that comes home and never go off of SOL testing track for earning a diploma.

Dr. Nelson - Response to Public Comments:

Substitute Training. Pleased that they have asked to set aside \$50,000 funding for substitute teachers and training in the 2020-2021 Budget. That was passed by school board.

Special Permission Accommodations: Had a campaign/initiative in October to train guidance counselors and special education teachers to review students and their credits and see if they were eligible for special permission credit accommodations. They've moved a few for approval with VDOE. Students earned a standard diploma and one credit for a verified credit in an advanced diploma.

Chair Report, Sharon Tropf:

- SEAC Banner - calling people with artistic ability wishing to assist with banner artwork please contact the Vice Chair of Planning.
- Concerned with SEAC communication getting to the special education community. Beth Barts discussed that communication was an issue at the 2/4/2020 School Board meeting. Of concerns was some of the School Board

questioned what Parent Resources Services did and who they were. Also, we received feedback from Principals are unclear on what SEAC; this has also been shared from families. SEAC also had a request to have flyers translated into Spanish.

- Working on our Annual SEAC Awards. SEAC will ask individuals nominating nominees to clearly specify and provide explicit examples of how the nominee has gone above and beyond the call of duty. SEAC does not have a budget; we will need help with fundraising.
- Annual Survey. School Board set aside \$10,000 for annual survey cost for the 2020-2021 school year. There is no funding for the 2019-2020 school year.
- Will be meeting with PRS to discuss the possibility of holding special education conference next Spring (2021)
- Dr. Amy Elledge is the SEAC liaison participating on Ad Hoc Equity Committee. Next Meeting is February 6. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be reviewed, discussed, with stakeholders such as, LCSO, LCPS, SEAC, MSAAC, and Equity committee members. Minority children and students with disabilities are disparately disciplined at higher rates. Children with disabilities have the highest rate of referrals to resources officers, not just referrals for discipline matters. Live Stream of the Equity Committee Meeting: <https://vimeo.com/channels/lcpsboard2020>
- SEAC urges the special education community to attend the **Community Meeting on Equity on Thursday, February 20, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.** The meeting will include updates on the broad equity next steps that LCPS is implementing (or initiating), and break-out sessions to solicit feedback on two important documents:
 - The Draft LCPS Comprehensive Equity Plan,
 - The Draft LCPS Guidelines for Responding to Racial Incidents.
- Membership -we have 5 open membership positions. We have 16 SEAC members & 54 LCPS schools are represented by a PTA/PTO

Parent Resource Services Report:

- Subscribe to their Newsletter on their webpage – Keep in Touch
<https://www.lcps.org/ParentResourceServices>
- Upcoming Series:
 - o When the Bus Stops Coming in 2/8/2020, 8:00AM – 12:30PM
 - o Diploma Options 2/11/2020, 6:00PM – 8:00PM
 - o Executive Functioning 2/18/2020, 6:00PM – 8:00PM & 2/19/2020, 9:00 - 11:00AM

School Board Liaison: John Beatty is the new School Board Liaison. Budget attempted to change the staffing standards from the deans to related services. It failed. When contacting the School Board, please be specific with the concern or request.

Dr. Nelson & Dr. Asia Jones, Pupil Services and the Office of Special Education

- Electronic Sign-in was made available for SEAC meetings
- Response letter identifying the findings of the Leveled Literacy review in response to the SEAC letter of concern was posted to the SEAC website:
<https://www.lcps.org/Page/226893>.

- Dr. Joy Engstrom applied for a grant and won “Robots for Autism” to help aide with the academic and social emotional learning for students on the autism spectrum.
- Pupil Services December Communique:
<https://www.lcps.org/site/handlers/filedownload.ashx?moduleinstanceid=297406&dataid=370495&FileName=December-JanuaryDPSCommunique.pdf>
- Dr. Jones was not able to be present; budget information was shared via video. Passed Budget items:
 - o Added 15 high school counselors New ratio 1:250 students; Middle School added 4 school counselors 1:300 students
 - o Training for health clinic substitutes

The SEAC Budget Task Force provided the School Board, Pupil Services, and Superintendent for the following considerations in the budget:

Recommendation 1: Adopt the proposed increases to the number of Special Education Teachers and Teaching Assistants (SEAC Annual Report recommendation 2).

Recommendation 2: Add related service provider FTEs (e.g., Speech-Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists), no less than proportional to the Teacher and Teaching Assistant increases (SEAC Annual Report recommendation 2).

Recommendation 3: Remove the proposed addition of supervisory staff (1.0 FTE Special Education Supervisor, 20.5 FTE Deans) (Ad Hoc Committee on Special Education Recommendation 7).

Recommendation 4: Adopt the proposed budget for Special Education substitute teachers and substitute teaching assistants (Ad Hoc Committee on Special Education Recommendation 12).

Recommendation 5: Adopt the proposed increases to the number of Special Education Teachers – Transition and Job Coaches – Transition. (Ad Hoc Committee on Special Education Recommendation 9; SEAC Annual Report recommendation 9)

Recommendation 6: Add regional facilities, contract, and transportation costs to build fully formed programs to address long-standing concerns with transition and post-LCPS life. (Ad Hoc Committee on Special Education Recommendation 9; SEAC Annual Report recommendation 5)

Recommendation 7: Allocate funding under the School Board budget for SEAC’s Annual Survey and operating expenses as an independent source of advice to the School Board (SEAC Annual Report recommendation 6)